



### Before the Closing

**Moderator:** 

Stuart M. Weiss, Vice President, Wells Fargo Corp Trust Services Panel:

Dave Persselin, Debt Administrator, City of San Jose Eric Sandler, Deputy Director of Finance, San Diego County Water Authority Tim Seufert, Director, NBS Local Government Solutions

> Living with an Issue: On-Going Debt Administration April 19, 2007 Long Beach, CA





## Understand Issuer's Responsibilities in Closing Process

- Have you, as issuer, designated a closing coordinator?
- Does the issuer need to wire funds to the Trustee?
- Is an issuer representative expected at the preclosing/closing?
- Are funds being wired to the Issuer?
- Final reports/documentation/certificates of issuer?



## Develop a Plan for Executing Documents and Providing Certificates

- Designate a closing coordinator to interface with bond counsel
- Require bond counsel to send packet of draft closing certificates and documents in advance of execution for internal review
- Insure that your authorized representatives are available to execute documents
  - Schedule meetings to sign documents
  - Don't wait to the last minute
  - Do you need a notary or governmental agency official seals?



#### Document Review – General Comments

- Process starts from the "kick-off" conference call
- Be proactive; be engaged; be tenacious
- In the end, it's just you (issuer), trustee and the documents
- Make the documents work for you, not you work for the documents



### Document Review – Indenture of Trust Key Elements

- Insure All Appropriate Trust Accounts are Designated – things to look for:
  - Construction Funds sub accounts
  - Transferred Proceeds funds from prior issue
  - Rebate Funds/Accounts
  - Cost of Issuance Funds
  - Capitalized Interest or Fees
  - Debt Service Funds/Accounts (principal & interest)
    - One fund for all parity debt
    - Separate funds by bond series
  - Reserve Fund valuation dates



### Document Review – Indenture of Trust Key Elements

- Understand Flow of Funds and Earnings
  - Interest earnings during and after construction period
  - Unspent proceeds
  - Reserve Fund excess earnings
    - Valuation Dates
  - Insure Permitted Investment Language is Appropriate
    - Is your Investment Policy mentioned?
    - Logistics to provide investment direction



- Similar covenants may appear in multiple documents (indenture, credit agreements, dealer agreements, etc...)
  - Issuance of additional debt
  - Availability of accounting information
  - Notification of changes in law/regulation
- Be consistent among documents
- Pay attention to cure periods for covenant defaults—reasonable and consistent
- Be careful about scope of representations that will be 'deemed' remade in the future



## Document Review – Continuing Disclosure Reporting Requirements

- Designate key contact for disclosure decisions
- Obligated Party vs. Dissemination Agent
- Contents of Annual Report
  - Audits
  - Updated financial information make this reasonable and based on reports currently producing in your organization
- Material Event Disclosure
- Use the CPO (www.disclosureUSA.com)



### Document Review – Understand Business Terms of Agreements

- What are your debt service payment dates?
- How often do you pay service providers i.e. trustee fees, remarketing agent?
- When does credit enhancement (LOC) expire?
- How and when do you receive invoices for debt service, remarketing agent, trustee?
  - Require bills for service to be sent within appropriate timeframe for your organization to process
  - Review ALL invoices for accuracy; don't assume correct

# Document Review – Compile and Review All Compliance Reporting Requirements

- Speak-up; don't agree to reporting deadline or requirement you can't comply with
- Develop a list/ticker system
- Is annual reporting date consistent with timeline for completing CAFR?
- Are budget reports copies of documents already prepared by organization?
- Is your debt service budget/appropriation readily identifiable in your budget documents?



#### Document Review -

#### Tax Certificate and Form 8038

- Don't view as closing certificate
- Review early in process, ensure consistency
- Understand the document; ask questions
- What is your bond year and why do you care?
- Do you have annual calculation requirements?
- What representations are being made regarding:
  - Project
  - Use of funds
  - Spend-down of proceeds
  - Yield Restriction



#### Land Based Financing – Special Items

- Keep bond documents
  - Community Facilities District or Engineer's Report
  - Rate and Method of Apportionment (CFD)
  - Boundary Map or Assessment Diagram
  - Formation Resolutions and/or Ordinances
  - Trust Indenture/Fiscal Agent Agreement
  - Annexations
- Define Roles and Develop Systems
  - Software
  - Consultants
  - Agency Staff



## Establish or Identify Funds and Codes in Issuer's Accounting System

- Work with your Accounting Staff prior to bond closing
  - Have accounting staff review draft bond documents
  - Ensure consistency with bond documents
- Debt Management Accounting Activities
  - Tracking of revenue necessary for debt service
  - Internal accounting transfers and entries into accounting system
  - Review and monitoring of trustee reports



### Insure Trustee Provides Online Access to Accounts from Closing Date

- Use technology to your advantage
- Online reporting reduces paper
- Ease of creating electronic records
- Easier to get documents to rebate consultant
- Provides real-time data on bond issue



#### Cost of Issuance Account

- Estimate Costs of Issuance and Collect Invoices
- Create record of all payments
- Review and approve all payments prior to disbursement
- Monitor to "close out" COI when all funds have been disbursed



- Obtain Projected Cash Flow and Encumbrance Schedules from project managers
- Establish Investment Agreements/LAIF Account as needed
- Develop process for monitoring balances in trustee held accounts
- Active monitoring construction activities
- Develop procedures for reinvestment of bond proceeds (see handout)



#### Disbursement of Bond Proceeds

- Establish Procedures for Disbursement of Bond Proceeds and Train Staff
  - Project staff
  - Finance staff
- Understand eligible expenditures
  - Working capital limits
  - Private Activity limits/restrictions
  - Use of proceeds



#### Land Based Financing - Special Items

- Develop and update parcel database
  - Start with database containing all parcels in district boundary including exempt parcels
  - Be clear on the "Triggers" Certificate of Occupancy, Building Permit and cutoff dates
  - Developed vs Undeveloped
  - Track data fields required for application of the special tax
  - Keep historical records!



### Budget Actions - "You've got to Pay it Back"

- Annual budget actions necessary to appropriate debt service and related payments
- Who in your organization is responsible for debt repayment activities
  - Verifying debt service payments
  - Making debt service payments/transfers
  - Timing of payments



#### Record Retention

- Establish Record Retention Requirements and Procedures
- IRS record retention requirements
  - Term of bonds + 6 years
  - Types of records
- IRS Website
  - www.irs.gov/taxexemptbond/index.html
  - FAQ's -- Record Retention Requirements (handout)
    - www.irs.gov/taxexemptbond/article/0,,id=134435,00.html



#### Summary

Ask questions ... ask questions ... ask questions

- In the end, just issuer, trustee and bondholder
- Don't commit to requirement until you understand the implications
- Active engaging process from beginning to end

